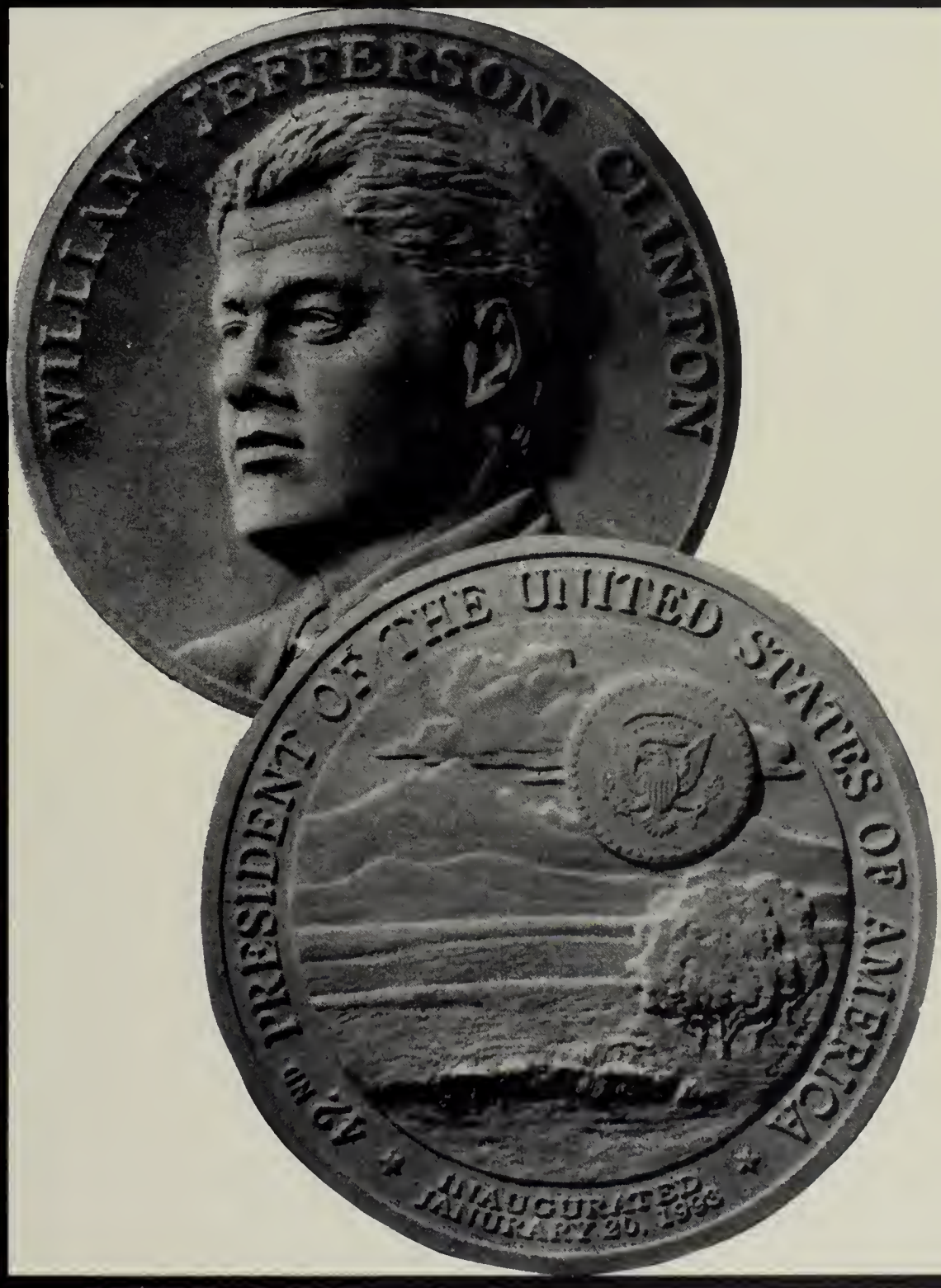
Quarterly Journal of the
Central States Numismatic Society

the centinel



Spring 1993
Volume 41, Number 1

Rosemont, IL Convention May 21-23

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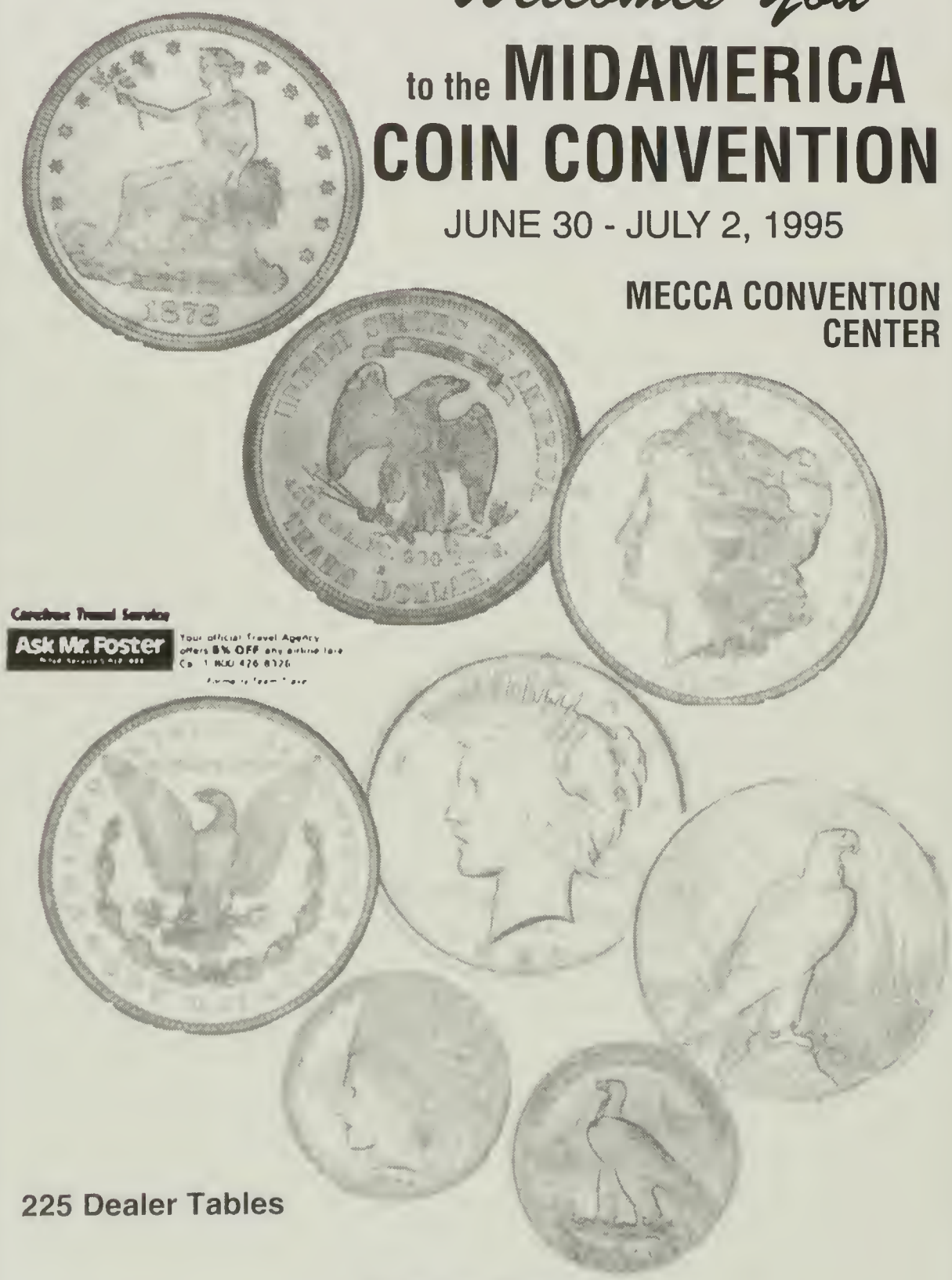

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In Memoriam

LEONARD M. OWEN

Immediate Past President Leonard M. Owen passed away December 11 at his home in Omaha, Nebraska, at the age of 70. He had been recovering from coronary bypass surgery.

Mr. Owen was elected to the CSNS Board of Governors in 1978. He served two years as Second Vice President and two years as First Vice President. He was elected President in 1992. Mr. Owen was past president and past secretary of the Omaha Coin Club and past president and past secretary of the Byron Reed Historical Society. He and his wife, Gloria, served as volunteer coordinators of a group who helped catalog the coin collection of Omaha pioneer and real estate agent Byron Reed. Mr. Owen was an expert on the 1898 Trans-Mississippi Exposition, a world's fair event that attracted 2.6 million people to Omaha. He wrote a book, *Territorial Banking In Nebraska.*

Mr. Owen was the recipient of the CSNS Elston Bradfield Literary Award in 1978 and again in 1982. He was awarded the CSNS Medal of Merit in 1983 and the SPMC Award of Merit in 1986. In 1989 he was presented the Nelson T. Thorson Founders Award and was the recipient of the Numismatic Ambassador Award from *Numismatic News*.

Mr. Owen was born in Hawleyville, Iowa, and graduated from high school in Essex, Iowa. He spent 20 years working as an electrician for the Omaha School District. He was an electrician on a Navy submarine during World War II and served in the Pacific from 1943 to 1945. He was a member of the Covert Lodge No. 11 A.F. and A.M., the Trans-Mississippi Society, the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers Local 22 and the Submarine Veterans of World War II.

Services were held at Unity Church with interment at Hawleyville, Iowa. Leonard leaves his wife, Gloria; son, Harry; two daughters, Janella Ashbaugh and Laura Owen; four grandsons; three sisters, Maryetta Otte, Eleanore Dideriksen, Evelyn Boettner; two brothers, David and Maurice; and sister-in-law, Marjorie Owen Hendershott.

The Central States Numismatic Society extends its sincere heartfelt sympathy to his family.

Presidential Commentary

Kevin Foley

I know that as I write this the committees for the Milwaukee Anniversary Convention are finalizing plans for what promises to be yet another in a long string of successful CSNS Conventions. While the bourse is always the focus of most attendees' interest, the committee has also arranged for a strong showing of social events, educational programs and numismatic exhibits. We sometimes get so involved in the strictly commercial aspects of the conventions that it is easy to forget the other types of events which make our gatherings the world class numismatic events they have become.

The convention committees deserve a great deal of credit for all these additional arrangements which elevate the CSNS conventions from being simply another large coin show into well rounded events with something to appeal to almost any interest related to numismatics.

Perhaps the greatest privilege in serving as President of CSNS is in being able to work and collaborate with the dedicated individuals who serve on the Board. They often receive more criticism and less thanks than they deserve. Sadly, the ranks of this devoted group were depleted recently with the passing of two who were especially dedicated to their responsibilities on behalf of CSNS.

Leonard Owen, our Immediate Past President, passed away unexpectedly. I had known Leonard since the early 1980's, and he was one of those rare individuals who would always give an opposite viewpoint calm consideration without questioning the motives of those who disagreed with him. I know that in the first year of my service as President, I had looked to him repeatedly for advice and council and always did so with confidence that he would give his best advice based on his sincere judgment as to what was best for the organization.

His serious and deliberative nature gave the impression that Leonard was all business. Nothing was further from the truth, however, as he had a quick and subtle wit that was capable of stripping away the pretentious or unsound in any position with a laugh rather than an unkind remark or personal attack.

Governor George Beach passed away in January after a long battle against leukemia. George was one of the leading dealers in the world and ancient field, and was respected as a fair and ethical dealer who had accumulated a broad expertise about his field that he was always willing to share. His presence in his specialty area was so significant that it is difficult to remember a time when he was not active in it. In addition to his activities as a dealer, George was also willing to give back to the hobby through his participation in numismatic club work. He was long an active member of the Michigan Sate Numismatic Society, serving as its President at the time of his death, and was a member of the CSNS Board who was not afraid to roll up his sleeves and do some work on behalf of the members.

It has indeed been a privilege to have known and served with both.

We also learned recently that James Curtis, who served as President of CSNS during the early 1950's has passed away. Perhaps we all need to remember that when we participate in the affairs of an organization such as CSNS we do so as stewards to preserve and enhance a tradition that was built by other people who came before us.

Ron Horstman, of Gerald, Missouri has agreed to accept an appointment to take the seat now vacant with the passing of Governor George Beach. Ron has previously served on the Board and is well known to those who collect or deal in paper money as the long time General Chairman of the National and World Paper Money Convention held each Fall in St. Louis. Mr. Horstman is a serious student of United States paper money and has written a number of articles which have appeared in *Paper Money* magazine, the journal of the Society of Paper Money Collectors. In addition, he is the author of *Collecting National Bank Notes*, a collecting guide to that specialty area recently released by the Professional Currency Dealers Association. He also holds the honor of being the only individual ever to have been named an Honorary Life Member by the PCDA and is a recipient of Krause Publications' Numismatic Ambassador Award.

Kevin Foley
President

The Torch is Passed

On the morning of January 9th, I lost a very dear friend, at the age of 57, to a very long battle with leukemia.

George M. Beach was born in Pontiac, December 16, 1937, the son of Edna and George Beach, both now deceased. He graduated from Troy High School, and attended Wayne State University, later becoming a hotel general manager. He and Barbara Nahikian were married in Clawson, November 21, 1960. George served on the security team for Robert F. Kennedy on Kennedy's New Mexico Campaign for U.S. president before becoming a full-time coin dealer in 1975.

A hobby leader for more than 20 years, George served in many volunteer and elected capacities including: terms as president, vice president, and governor of Michigan State Numismatic Society; governor of Central States Numismatic Society; former central U. S. director of the Canadian Numismatic Association; past ANA district representative; and co-owner of the New York International Coin Convention among others.

I knew George for nearly 20 years, having traveled the Midwest and East Coast show circuit with him on numerous occasions. I've worked side-by-side with members of his entire family at conventions and auctions.

George consistently provided me with encouragement and advice. Throughout his years in the hobby, he always fought for what was right and stood up for the collector and dealer alike. His bourse table would always be a gathering place for collectors as his inventory was always a virtual smorgasbord of numismatic delights, and the conversation good.

Throughout his lengthy battle with leukemia, he always wore a smile and was quick with a joke or story, as was his nature. With each setback through the years, another mountain to climb, he was always up to the challenge. His final numismatic journey was to the annual New York International Convention in December, 1994. It was here that he was able to say his final good-byes to many of his friends and colleagues. He told me that dying wasn't the hardest part, saying good-bye was.

Words cannot truly describe the feeling I have for this man and his family. My mentor is at rest now, he prepared the way for his light to shine on through his family and friends. The torch has been passed and it burns brighter than ever.

Craig A. Whitford

In Memoriam

GEORGE M. BEACH

Central States Governor George Beach passed away January 9 at Memorial Healthcare Center, Owosso, Michigan at the age of 57.

Mr. Beach was elected to the CSNS Board of Governors in 1990. He was president and life member of the Michigan State Numismatic Society, life member of the ANA, FUN, American Israeli Numismatic Society and served as former central United States director of the Canadian Numismatic Association. He was an ANA district representative and regional coordinator, and served on the ANA's National Coin Week Committee for several years. In 1993 he received the ANA's Presidential Award.

Mr. Beach attended Wayne State University in Detroit, entered the business world and became a hotel manager. He served on the security team for Robert F. Kennedy on Kennedy's New Mexico campaign for U. S. president before becoming a full-time coin dealer in 1975. He was a dealer in ancient and classical coins.

George leaves his wife, Barbara and four children, George, James, Bettsy Lynn Curtis and Cynthia Phillips. His son, James, is continuing the world coin business.

The Central States Numismatic Society extends its sincere heartfelt sympathy to his family.

A Message from the Secretary

Jerry Lebo

Our sympathy goes out to the families of Leonard Owen and George Beach, two CSNS board members who died this past winter. Leonard, who just completed a term as our president, passed away last Dec. 11. George succumbed to a lingering illness Jan. 8. Their obituaries appear elsewhere in this issue of *the Centinel.*

In addition to his service to CSNS, Leonard was a numismatic researcher with expertise especially in the area of Nebraska obsolete bank notes. CSNS even published his work, which is still available today from the association. George was an expert in ancient coins as well as exonumia. Not only have we lost two friends, but the hobby has lost two knowledgeable members.

We're also saddened to report the death late last year of a former CSNS president - James W. Curtis. He served as president from 1952 to 1954 while living in Illinois. In more recent years, he lived in San Antonio, Texas.

Should the CSNS Board of Governors be reduced in size? That question will be put to a vote during the annual general membership meeting in Milwaukee April 29. Specifically, members present and voting will decide if the number of governors should be reduced from 13 to 10.

I personally have mixed feelings about the proposal. The intent of the proposition is to reduce expenses, and certainly we all should be in favor of that objective. CSNS spends nearly $1,000 a year in expenses for each board member, mainly to pay for hotel accommodations at fall and spring meetings and for travel to and from the fall meeting.

Obviously, then, elimination of three board positions would save somewhere around $3,000 but still leave the board with 16 members, including the 10 governors plus president, vice president, secretary-treasurer, immediate past president, editor and legal counsel. The latter two are non-voting members.

Those opposed to the reduction argue it probably would make it more difficult for a collector to win a seat on the board; that dealers seeking office would have an advantage because of name recognition. By my count, less than half, or six of the 13 governors elected last year, are dealers. However, four of them were among the top five vote getters in the most recent election.

So should the number of governors be reduced? You decide.

Meanwhile, the board continues to look for other areas to cut expenses. At its most recent fall meeting, the board accepted a proposal to eliminate insert cards from the Centinel. These are those hotel and convention registration cards that few people fill out and mail anyway. Instead, those forms will be printed in the pages of *the Centinel.* That saves $1,000 each time such forms are necessary.

The board also voted to limit the number of scholarships to the ANA summer seminar to two instead of four. That might sound like we're going against the grain in terms of providing educational opportunities. However, the fact of the matter is that no more than two scholarships actually have been awarded annually in recent years.

So do you have some ideas on saving money? On other ways to improve our society? Contact any board member and express your thoughts.

Incidentally, we saved a few dollars in postage by mailing dues notices prior to Jan. 1 - the date when first-class postage went up 3 cents to 32 cents. In years past, dues notices didn't go out until somewhere around March 1, which is the start of our fiscal year. The board at its fall meeting in Cincinnati last year approved some modifications in the time frame for paying dues. Most importantly, the absolute final deadline for dues payment is

now Sept. 1, which is still plenty of time for members to remain current.

As usual, we included a membership card with each dues notice. This saves hundreds of dollars in postage by not having to mail the card after the dues payment is received. Also, late in the year I mailed membership cards to those who have paid their dues for several years in the future. This mailing might have duplicated some already-sent membership cards, but I wanted to be sure these fine people know just how far ahead they're paid up.

For the record, 122 members earlier had paid through March 1, 1996 and didn't need a dues notice. Another 25 are paid up even beyond then. One member is paid up through March 1, 2002.

By the way, there's a second amendment facing the membership at the convention. It would lower from 19 to 18 the age for regular membership in the society. That seems to be the norm for most organizations these days.

You'll be seeing a few new features in *the Centinel* during the months ahead. The board has authorized the publication of the society's annual financial report and the publication of the board meeting minutes. The financial report has always been available to members at the general membership meeting, but few people have bothered to pick up copies over the years.

Speaking of things in *the Centinel*, as you know we publish the names of new members and those converting to life memberships. We don't publish the names of current members converting to associate membership. They are already members, so their conversion is mainly an administrative function.

Hopefully this issue of *the Centinel* will reach you prior to our spring convention at Milwaukee in late April. The three host clubs have worked hard to set the stage for another outstanding gathering, so if you're waivering on whether to attend... be there!

Don't forget that your last chance to purchase 50th anniversary CSNS medals is rapidly approaching. These were struck in 1989 to commemorate the society's 50th anniversary. As of last fall, we had just over 200 pieces still on hand, including proof and business strikes. We now have less than 150 on hand, and what remains after the Milwaukee convention will be melted. They're priced at $15 each for the proof and $8 each for the business strike version. Add $2 postage, etc. for each piece. You can order them from me. My address is in the front of *the Centinel*.

Thanks to Cindy Grellman for helping find a "lost" member.

I previously wrote about the hassles of the Hotel Ponchartrain while attending the ANA convention in Detroit last summer. Adding insult to injury, the hotel added a "no show" charge of one night to my credit card billing, even though I had called well ahead of time to reduce my visit by one day, eliminating a Tuesday arrival in favor of showing up on Wednesday.

The folks at Discover Card reacted positively and eliminated the charge after I complained. I'll not bore you with the details, other than to say that credit card companies apparently are savvy about hotel billings.

And, finally, speaking of hotels: I was bourse chairman for the CSNS convention last year in Indianapolis. As such, I stayed downtown at the host Omni Severin Hotel, depositing my car with the valet parking people on opening day. Would you believe that about two months later I received a notice from the Indianapolis Police Department that I hadn't paid a parking ticket?

Seems the hotel folks parked my car on the street for a while, and a parking ticket was deposited thereon. Of course, the ticket was pitched by the valet parkers and I didn't know about it until the notice arrived from the police. I paid the $17 fine and billed the hotel. They paid, believe it or not!

-Jerry Lebo
Secretary

HARRY W. BASS, JR. RESEARCH FOUNDATION IN DALLAS, TEXAS OFFERS UNIQUE NUMISMATIC RESEARCH OPPORTUNITIES

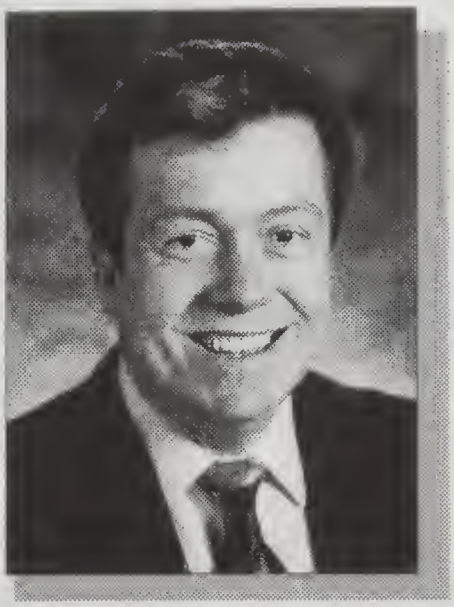
The Harry W. Bass, Jr. Research Foundation was brought into existence in December of 1991. The purpose of the Research Foundation is to keep intact in perpetuity rare and very significant collections of U.S. Numismatics to the end that they will be available to serious numismatists for purposes of education and research.

The Foundation presently owns 807 items which will be of significant interest to the scholar and student of United States Numismatics. The present collection consists of over 250 different specimens of large size U.S. paper currency, together with over 500 United States pattern, experimental and trial pieces. The currency covers the period from the inception of U.S. currency at the beginning of the Civil War to the time it was withdrawn from circulation during the 1920s, at which time it was replaced by smaller bills.

The "Pattern" collection consists of an outstanding representation of this area of Numismatics which is so important to the researcher for a full understanding of the evolution of American coinage. Many specimens are quite rare, and all are in exemplary condition.

Persons interested in examining portions of the collections in pursuit of their numismatic research endeavors should contact the Foundation office at 8333 Douglas Ave., Suite 1400, Dallas, Texas 75225 during normal office hours. Or one may call (214) 696-0584 for more information.

ON THE ROAD AGAIN . . . TO MEET YOU!



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- Devoted to Numismatic education, young numismatist and the enjoyment of this fine hobby of ours.
- Former ANA Chief Exhibit Judge, National Coin Week Chairman, and Chairman ANA audit committee
- Former Secretary of SPMC
- Former President of many local and regional Coin Clubs
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Preliminary
Convention
Schedule
Central States Numismatic Society
56th Anniversary Convention

MILWAUKEE, WISCONSIN — APRIL 28-30, 1995

PNG DAY — THURSDAY, APRIL 27

The following tentative schedule of events for the 56th Anniversary Convention of the Central States Numismatic Society is presented here as a convenience for potential convention attendees. Because of printing deadlines it is probable that some changes and additions will be made to the schedule prior to the actual dates of the convention. Please consult the official program, available at the convention itself, for final details.

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 26, 1995

12:00 Noon Security room opens (East Exhibit Hall of MECCA)
11:00 p.m. Security room closes

THURSDAY, APRIL 27, 1995

7:00 a.m. Security room opens to PNG dealers (East Exhibit Hall of MECCA)
8:00 a.m. Bourse opens to PNG dealers
8:00 a.m. Auction lot viewing begins MECCA Convention Center
10:00 a.m. Bourse opens to the general public
10:00 a.m. CSNS packet pick-up begins for booth holders & exhibitors
10:00 a.m. Security room opens to CSNS dealers and badge holders (East Exhibit Hall of MECCA)
3:00 p.m. CSNS Board of Governors **Open** Board meeting at the Hyatt Regency
4:30 p.m. One way traffic begins (except for PNG table holders or officials)
5:00 p.m. PNG Day bourse closes
7:00 p.m. Bourse opens to CSNS dealers holding tables & exhibitors
8:00 p.m. Auction lot viewing ends
9:00 p.m. Bourse entry closes - everyone must vacate hall
9:15 p.m. Security room closes

FRIDAY, APRIL 28, 1995

7:00 a.m. Security room opens (East Exhibit Hall of MECCA)
8:00 a.m. CSNS Board of Governors **Open** Board meeting at the Hyatt Regency
8:00 a.m. Bourse opens to dealers with booths & exhibitors
8:00 a.m. Auction lot viewing begins MECCA Convention Center
9:00 a.m. Open meeting Liberty Seated Collectors Club regional meeting and educational rogram to be announced. In the upper level East One Octagon room
9:55 a.m. Ribbon cutting ceremonies
10:00 a.m. Hospitality room opens (location to be announced)
10:00 a.m. Bourse opens to the general public
10:00 a.m. Friendship luncheon/tour leaves from front/center of Convention Center
1:00 p.m. Banquet ticket sales end
1:00 p.m. Competitive exhibits must be set up
4:00 p.m. Hospitality room closes
6:15 p.m. Auction lot viewing ends
6:30 p.m. One way traffic begins (except for CSNS table holders, exhibitors, or officials)
7:00 p.m. Bourse entry closes - everyone must vacate hall
7:00 p.m. Heritage auction first session begins at the Hyatt Regency
7:15 p.m. Security room closes
7:30 p.m. WIN (Women in Numismatics) board meeting at the Hyatt

SATURDAY, APRIL 29, 1995

8:00 a.m. Security room opens (East Exhibit Hall of MECCA)
8:00 a.m. Auction lot viewing begins MECCA Convention Center
8:00 a.m. Open meeting Women in Numismatics regional meeting and educational program. Leon Saryan will present a slide program on "A Survey of the Coinage of Cilician Armenia." in the upper level East One Octagon room.
9:00 a.m. Bourse opens to dealers with booths & exhibitors

9:30 a.m.	Open meeting Barber Coin Collectors Society regional meeting and educational program to be announced, in the upper level East One Octagon room.
9:30 a.m.	Auction lot viewing ends
10:00 a.m.	Heritage auction second session begins at the Hyatt Regency
10:00 a.m.	Bourse opens to the general public
10:00 a.m.	Hospitality room opens (location to be announced).
10:30 a.m.	Open meeting International Banknote Society/Society of Paper Money Collectors/Paper Money Collectors of Michigan general membership meeting & educational forum. Bill Brandimore will present a slide program on "Birds in Art, on Currency and Coins." in the upper level East One Octagon room.
11:30 a.m.	Open meeting Young and Emerging Numismatists program featuring Florence Schook, Dave Hunsicker, Nancy Wilson and Neil Shafer. In the upper level of East Ten. Lots of fun and door prizes!
11:30 a.m.	Open meeting educational seminar by David M. Sundman, President of Littleton Coin Company. He will present a slide program on "The Topp Ten Tips for Successfully Building Your Collection by Mail." Sundman's illustrated presentation will explain how to efectively and efficiently purchase numismatic items y mail order. To celebrate Littleton's 50th anniversary, a special set of uncirculated 1945 coins valued at $175 will be among the doorprizes given away at this seminar. This open meeting will be held in the upper level East One Octagon room.
1:30 p.m.	Open meeting Central States Numismatic Society Educational Forum featuring Fred Schwan and Anthony Swiatek. The moderator will be Neil Shafer in In the upper level East One Octagon room. Door prizes will be given away.
3:00 p.m.	Open meeting Central States Numismatic Society general membership meeting & exhibit awards. In the upper level East One Octagon room
4:00 p.m.	Hospitality room closes
5:30 p.m.	One way traffic begins (except for CSNS table holders, exhibitors, or officials)
6:00 p.m.	Bourse entry closes - everyone must vacate hall
6:15 p.m.	Security room closes
7:00 p.m.	CSNS Reception & Cocktail Hour - Hyatt Regency 2nd level foyer
8:00 p.m.	CSNS Banquet - Hyatt Regency Ballroom 2nd floor. By ticket only

SUNDAY, APRIL 30, 1995

8:00 a.m.	Security room opens (East Exhibit Hall of MECCA)
8:00 a.m.	Open Interdenominational Church Service conducted by Virg Marshall III, at the Hyatt Regency. Everyone is invited to this service
9:00 a.m.	Bourse opens to dealers with booths and exhibitors
9:00 a.m.	Central States Numismatic Society Board meeting at the Hyatt Regency
10:00 a.m.	Bourse opens to the general public
10:00 a.m.	Hospitality room opens (location to be announced)
11:00 a.m.	Open meeting Numismatists of Wisconsin (NOW) Board Meeting. In the upper level East One Octagon room
2:00 p.m.	Hospitality room closes
2:30 p.m.	Bourse entry closes (except for CSNS table holders, exhibitors or officials)
3:00 p.m.	Bourse entry closes - everyone must vacate hall - show officially closed
3:15 p.m.	Security room closes

MONDAY, MAY 1, 1995

6:00 a.m.	Security room opens (East Exhibit Hall of MECCA)
10:00 a.m.	Security room closes and everything must be removed

Note: Items not claimed when the security room closes will be considered abandoned property. The items will be turned over to the Milwaukee Police Department.

In Memoriam

The Board and membership of the Society join in extending our heartfelt condolences to the family and friends of the following members who passed away recently.

L 004 Col. James W. Curtis ..... San Antonio, TX
L 124 Harold Helm ..... Oshkosh, WI
L 139 Ed Sedo ..... Dearborn, MI
R 1670 George D. Benge, Sr. ..... Topeka ,KS
R 2859 George M. Beach ..... Owosso, MI
R 2937 Leonard M. Owen ..... Omaha, NE
R 5477 Don Carmody ..... Huntington Beach, CA

Membership Applications

The persons named below have applied for membership in the Society. Each applicant will become a member in 30 days, unless a written objection to his or her application is received by the Secretary-Treasurer prior to that date.

ASSOCIATE MEMBERSHIP

7141 Deb Hinerth ..... Littleton NH

REGULAR MEMBERSHIP

7140 Maynard Sundman ..... Littleton, NH
7143 Charles Opitz ..... Ocala, FL
7144 John S. Cupp ..... Davenport, IA
7146 David Kranz ..... Iola, WI
7147 John A. Schroeder ..... Racine, WI
7148 Glen Hurdlik ..... Oak Brook, IL
7149 Dino Payne ..... Lexington, KY
7150 Glenn Thompson ..... Roselle, IL
7151 Rick Kleinvehn ..... Roselle, IL
7152 Mike Storeim ..... Dallas, TX
7153 Lori McKay ..... Dallas, TX

JUNIOR MEMBERSHIP

7142 Ian Orzechowski ..... Barrington, IL
7145 Josh Sadler ..... Cadillac, MI

LIFE MEMBERSHIPS

565 Brad Karoleff ..... Florence, KY
566 Brad Schade ..... Boyne City, MI
567 Gary P. Roessler ..... Indianapolis, IN
569 Kevin Dailey ..... New Lenox, IL
570 Brian Heil ..... Chicago, IL
571 Joseph W. Hutchison ..... Muncie, IN
572 E.R. (Randy) Schultz ..... Detroit Lakes, MN
573 John F. Maben, Jr. ..... Plano, TX
574 Carl Jackson Tackett ..... Schoolcraft, MI
575 Chris Victor-McCawley ..... Edmond, OK
576 Paul E. Leistritz ..... St. Louis, MO
577 Lee Block ..... Great River, NY
578 Ronald R. Drzewucki, Jr. ..... St. Louis, MO
579 Jay King ..... Logansport, IN

Honor Roll

20 YEARS (1975)

Major James Andel ..... Eglin AFB, FL
Dr. J. W. Carberry ..... Iowa City, IA
Tom Cole ..... Lincoln, NE
James L. Crosby ..... Albion, NE
Kenneth M. Goldman ..... Needham, MA
Marvin F. Gross ..... Kansas City, MO
Robert J. Hanson ..... Richfield, WI
Milton G. Heitman ..... Marengo, IA
Marjorie O. Hendershott ..... Jefferson City, MO
Howard Herz ..... Minden, NV
Gerald E. Johnson ..... Wisconsin Rapids, WI
Paul R. Johnson ..... Ontario, Canada
Walter E. Johnson ..... Overland Park, KS
Glen I. Jorde ..... Devils Lake, ND
Don Kagin ..... Tiburon, CA
Jonathan K. Kern ..... Lexington, KY
Joe Leone ..... Frankfort, KY
Robert T. McIntire ..... Jacksonville, AR
William P. Paul ..... Jenkintown, PA
Michael B. Scacci ..... Fort Dodge, IA
Larry Schneider ..... Bismarck, ND
James A. Simek ..... Westchester, IL
Charles Sloan ..... St Louis, MO
George E. Stuber ..... Kansas City, MO
Roger L. Winkelhake ..... Lincoln, NE

25 YEARS (1970)

Alvin M. Buckholtz ..... Cleveland, OH
Richard J. Crosby ..... Pittsburgh, PA
Ed Hipps ..... Dallas, TX
St. Louis Numismatic Association ..... St Louis, MO
Dr. Bryon M. Stuart ..... Boonville, MO

30 YEARS (1965)

J. H. Cline ..... Palm Harbor, FL
Willis D. Miller ..... Peoria, IL
W. L. (Dutch) Rohning ..... Kansas City, MO
John G. Ross ..... Chicago, IL

35 YEARS (1960)

James Caldwell ..... Rhinelander, WI
Cincinnati Numismatic Association ..... Cincinnati, OH
Dearborn Coin Club ..... Dearborn, MI
Oscar H Dodson ..... Urbana, IL
Les Durant ..... Detroit, MI
Roland W Finner ..... Iola, WI
Paul Flynn ..... Prairie Village, KS
Ralph D Hardman, Jr. ..... Overland Park, KS
Indianapolis Coin Club ..... Greenwood, IN
Robert M. Jenove ..... Franklin Square, NY
Betty C. Lefman ..... Kansas City, MO
Melvin T. Oas ..... Minneapolis, MN
C. A. Pherson ..... Fargo, ND
Bernard E. Schilling ..... Hermantown, MN
Don D. Squire ..... Canton, MI

40 YEARS (1955)

Chicago Coin Club ..... Chicago, IL
Wayne D. Jackson ..... Logansport, IN
J. Thomas Nolan ..... Chicago, IL
Ralph C. Winquist, Jr. ..... Rockford, IL

45 YEARS (1950)

Central Illinois Numismatic Assn. ..... Springfield, IL
Marion Isaacs ..... Interlachen, FL
Joseph E Merkel ..... Princeton, IL

A Case of Mistaken Identitiy?: Royal Succession On Coins In Spanish Colonial Latin America

Saul B. Needleman, Ph.D.

Long live the king! The king is dead. Thus was the death of a ruling monarch announced to his subjects. And thus was allegiance transferred to the new monarch as he came to the throne.

Generally, following the death of the king, his coinage ceased to be minted. New dies were prepared for the new king and, within a short time, a new coinage appeared in the name of the new monarch. Indeed, in the year 69 C.E., in Rome, four emperors followed each other to the throne in the space of a seven month period (Galba: 68 to January, 69; Vitellius: Janaury, 69 to February, 69; Otho: February, 69 to July, 69; Vespasian: July, 69 to 79). Yet, each successive emperor produced a full series of coins in his name within a short time of his ascension to the throne, not only for use in Rome, but also the expected issues for use throughout the Roman provinces and colonies in Asia and Africa, as well. In England, within a month following succession to the throne by Harold II (1066), a flood of new coinage emerged almost instantly from every minting authority in England to replace the coinage of the departed Edward the Confessor. Thus, appearance of coinage in the name of the new king was a sign of his independent rule.

In Spain, as in England, France and other countries, a new and appropriate coinage appeared within a short time after a new king rose to the throne. In the Spanish colonies in South America, coinage for local use was shipped from Spain and, thus, reflected the situation in Spain itself. The procedure proved costly and never provided sufficient coinage to meet the needs of the newly conquered and rapidly expanding population. As trade and commerce increased, particularly in New Spain (Mexico), the necessity for a local mint became urgent. In 1526, Luis Ponce de Leon brought to Mexico City, dies bearing the royal arms with which to mark issues of gold disks of variable fineness, circulating as provisional money, produced by the Royal Smelting and Assay Office. These dies were never put into use, but the tepuzque gold disks continued to circulate to fill a need.

The royal decree of May 11, 1535 authorized coinage of silver and copper in Mexico. Selection of the design was left to the local viceroy (Mendoza). Minting of the Carolus and Johanna (as co-rulers) silver pieces began in April, 1536, the first formal coinage in the Western Hemisphere. The viceregal order of June 28, 1542 provided for designs and dies for the new copper maraveda coinage. Dies for each new issue were to be cut locally. The prevailing regulations governing operaton of the mint were subsequently ratified by Philip II on February 15, 1567, and by Philip III on January 4, 1615. Dies for the first issue were engraved by Anton de Vides, who was appointed to the position by the viceroy. Authorizations to open mints in other Spanish colonies in South America were issued as needed, following essentially the same regulations as prevailed at the Mexico City mint.

The situation with respect to the dies changed in 1544 (June 6) when a royal decree ordered that coins minted in the colonies should be of the same fineness, weight, value and design as those coined in Castile. To ensure this, dies were thereafter prepared in Madrid and sent to the colonies under guard.

Nevertheless, by 1652, the coinage of Peru had become thoroughly corrupted as a result of underweight planchets, reduced fineness and extensive counterfeiting. A new coinage was authorized on November 15, 1655 and, to ensure uniformity of future coinage between colonies, new minting machinery was requested by the Potosi (for Peru and

Bolivia) and Mexico City mints so that coins would be interchangeable. Dies were not mentioned. Offices of the mint (including the engraver) had become available to the highest bidder and one may conclude that once again dies were engraved in the colonies rather than in Spain.

Aside from the assayer's initials and mintmarks, the coin products from the various mints in Latin America produced rather similar products according to the various decrees of the cortes in Spain and of the local viceroys. In addition to the half, one and two reales coins authorized initially, a three reales coin was authorized but never placed into circulation because of the close similarity in size to the two reales pieces. Instead, a four reales coin was authorized shortly after. It was not until 1572 that eight reales pieces appeared from the Mexico City mint. Most coins prior to 1732 were of the cob (= cabo de barre - end of the bar) type while those produced after this date were round and uniform. The earliest silver coins had the crowned arms of Castile and Leon quartered with CAROLVS ET JOHANA REGES around. The reverse shows the Pillars of Hercules with PLUS ULTRA across (alluding to 'more beyond', the Spanish empire beyond the ocean sea) with the value mark as numerals or dots. There are many variations in spelling. Later issues show the crowned arms of Castile, Leon, Granada, Aragon, Naples, Sicily, Burgundy, Brabant, Flanders and Tyrol. The value mark, mint mark and assayer's initial are found at the sides of the shield. The reverse has a cross tressure, in the quarters of which are castles and lions. Divided between the obverse and reverse is the name of the king together with his title as king of Spain and the Indies (Hispanarium et Indarium Rex). Pieces issued prior to 1580 were undated. Some issued after this also were undated, the style of the arms and crown indicating the ruling monarch. Because dates were placed near the edge of the flan, not all digits were struck up. On later cob issues one, two or even three dates were located at various positions in the die to ensure that at least one date could be fully identified. Only minor variations distinguish the coins of Philip II and III. Coins from Philip IV, Charles II and Philip V also are difficult to distinguish from each other.

Coins from 1732 onward are remarkably different from previous issues in that for the first time, the portrait of the king appears on the coin. This simplified identification of the ruling monarch - or did it?

Coins marking ascension of a new monarch following the death of the previous king appeared in regular order, as described earlier. Philip V reigned twice. The first reign extended from 1700 (death of Charles II) to January 10, 1724. The second from August 31, 1724 to his death on July 9, 1746. Philip abdicated in favor of his oldest son, Louis, in 1724, but the untimely death of Louis brought Philip back to the throne within a few months. It is here that two interesting anomalies occur in the routine appearance of new monarchal coins. Because of the brief reign of Louis (less than seven months), few coins for Louis appeared in general. Almost none exist in the colonies since dies from Spain marking his ascension did not arrive until after his death. In addition, coinage for Philip V from the colonial mints continued for one year after his death because of the slow communications from Spain announcing his death and delivery of new dies for Ferdinand VI. Thus, in one case, few coins exist because dies from Spain did not arrive in time to produce a new coinage, while in the other, coins continued to be produced from existing dies because new dies were not provided in a timely fashion. Apparently at this time, dies no longer were produced locally, but depended upon shipment from Spain, a reversal of previous policy. Confusing is the fact that when the shift was made from cobs to round coins on March 29, 1732, the local die engravers were present at the ceremony.

Two types of round coins appeared almost simultaneously in 1732-1733. One type was identified as having been made from dies cut in Spain (as required by the law of June 6, 1544) on which space was provided for local addition of the value and assayer's initials. The other, however, appears to have been made from locally produced dies. The two

issues bear considerable resemblence to each other suggesting that the separate origin of the dies did not produce vastly different coinages. These coins had the Pillars of Hercules and crowned overlapping hemispheres on one side with the crowned coat-of-arms shield on the other. This artistic and open design, common throughout the colonies, appeared on the coins almost simultaneously with more conservative types from Spain itself. This colonial design was the famous Pillar Dollar which continued the essence of the cob coinage in showing the hemispheres and the arms of Castile, Leon and, often, Navarre. The pieces are edge-marked with a wreath-like design and are certainly among the more beautiful of all coinage.

While the lower denominations of the pillar type (less than eight reales) might actually have circulated in the colonies and served a commercial purpose. the crown-size eight real piece, more likely, was prepared as a convenient means for transporting the silver wealth from the colonies to Spain to pay for the political intrigues and power struggles of the Spanish monarchs. The series extended from April 23, 1760 to late in 1771, covering the first half of the reign of Charles III. Then, in the colonies, as well as in Spain, from April 8, 1772 (actually authorized on May 13, 1761, from locally prepared dies) until his death on December 14, 1788, there appeared a new series, one which for the first time on Spanish coins presented the portrait of the king as the obverse design. These Spanish American issues continued the combined crowned pillars and arms designs, now together, on the reverse. On the coins from Spain, only the coat-of-arms was used as the reverse design. For 17 years, one could see the features of Charles III on the new portrait types, a large head graced with a laurel wreath and pigtail, and a somewhat bulbous and bridgeless nose over large lips. The bust is draped on most pieces. The coins are large, weighing in excess of 25 g of 0.903 fine silver. Thus, they afforded a reasonable medium for the mint engraver's art.

In 1788, Charles III died and his son, Charles IV, came to the throne. It is here that the story of possible 'mistaken identity' really begins. In the northern portion of the Western Hemisphere a war of revolution between the former British colonies in North America which became the United States, and England had just concluded. Though many French fought with the Americans, officially, France, under Napoleon, had been interested in preventing the establishment of this non-French nation which stood to interfere with French control of the fur trade in the Great Lakes and French Canada. Spain also feared the future expansion of this new nation across the Mississippi into the vast Spanish empire of the West. Charles III had allied himself with France (thus, indirectly with England), in the Seven Years War and in the American War of Independence, though both nations were enemies of England. As a result of these intrigues, Spain ultimately yielded the Louisiana Territory to France, who sold it to the United States almost immediately. Spain lost Florida to the British and France lost Canada to the British completely thwarting their original hopes.

When Charles III died in 1788, news of his demise was slow to reach the New World, probably because of the continuing battles between the French, English and Spanish in Europe. Though news of the death of the monarch finally reached New Spain (Mexico) on March 17, 1789, dies for a new coinage were not yet prepared in Spain. Instead, the Mexico City mint (quickly followed by the mints of other colonies) modified the dies of Charles III by the addition of a 'I' to the old title, giving 'Charles IIII' for coins minted in 1789 and 1790. In some cases, the dies were altered to read CHarles IV. On July 29, 1789, the cortes in Spain finally ordered the bust of Charles IV to appear on his coins, but delayed until January of the following year to supply appropriate dies. Anxious for continuity, Charles ordered new coins to be prepared with his portrait, but back-dated for 1789-1790. None of these apparently were issued. For a scant three years, beginning in 1789, the new coinage displayed the regnal title of CAROLVS IV D.G. HISPAN ET IND REX, but still showed the portrait of Charles III (CAROLVS). Depending upon the

colony, silver coins ranging from as small as the 1/4 real (Chile only) to the eight real crown-size piece were issued. A corresponding gold series also exists. The coins marked the death of Charles III by continued use of his portrait; the ascension of Charles IV was commemorated by titling him as the king on the same coin. While a familial resemblance is apparent, there is no mistaking the countenence of Charles III on the coins for that of Charles IV. Charles IV still had a large head, but the nose was more defined, with a better-developed bridge between his eyes.

In 1790 (in Mexico; 1791 in other colonies), the second short-lived series appeared, of almost exactly the same design as that above, but with the name of the king given as CAROLVS IIII. These types continued only to 1792 when they were replaced by a new definitive series with the portrait and title of CAROLVS IV (though in some colonies CAROLVS IIII still was used, as it was in Spain).

However, the story of 'mistaken identity' continues. Having eventually reconciled the likeness and title of Charles IV on coins from the Spanish colonies, further political intrigues soon necessitated yet another new issue. In 1807, Charles IV attempted to make a treaty with Napoleon, who had already entered into certain agreements with Ferdinand VII, heir to the Spanish throne. Civil riots in Madrid (March 19, 1808) led to the abdication of Charles in favor of Ferdinand. Charles' attempts to regain the throne almost immediately, based on his claims that the abdicaton was involuntary, failed. Ferdinand became king of Spain from 1808 to 1833. However, two major events mar the reign of Ferdinand, one leading again to the question of 'mistaken identity'. With the ascension of Ferdinand to the throne of Spain, Napoleon, presumably his ally, invaded Spain and placed his brother, Joseph, on the throne as the de facto king. Again, because communications between the homeland and the colonies continued to be poor, a transitional coinage appeared from three colonies with the bust of Charles IV and the title of Ferdinand VII, the the result of local authority. When news of the French invasion finally arrived in South America, it would appear that political expediency dominated over loyalty to the crown. Coins appeared from each of the mint colonies beginning between 1808 and 1811 bearing not the official portrait of Ferdinand, but rather 'imaginary portraits' which might satisfy the legalities of the crown without offending the current masters of Spain, the French. Depending upon the colony, the coins portray a narrow-head unsmiling bust of "Ferdinand", often with a dagger-like nose and a protruding jaw, in either military (earlier) or draped (later) dress. Earlier pieces (1808-1809) often contain the name abbreviated as FERDND while later pieces (1810-1811) use FERDIN. Busts from the different colonies bear little likeness to each other, though the so-called 'Lima' bust bears some resemblance to the portrait on some coins from Spain. Even busts from the military and draped versions from the same colony differ from each greatly. These appeared for three years (1808-1811) from Guatemala, and as late as 1817, from Chile and 1819 from Colombia. Ferdinand eventually was restored to the throne in Spain in 1814. The second major event of Ferdinand's reign is that though he was king of Spain until 1833, he actually ceased to reign in South America after each colony became independent about 1821.

It is evident that the mismatch between portraits and titles on colonial coins in the Western Hemisphere following death of the Spanish monarch cannot be a case of mistaken identity as alluded to in the title of this essay. It was a matter of much more complex issues than the appearance of a mere coinage with mismatched titles and portraits. It is certainly the result of English (and French) piracy on the high seas which confused and delayed communications between Spain and its colonies. It is more related to the wars over control of the fur trade in parts of the U.S. and Canada, to the birth of a new nation which showed the potential for expanding ever westward, and to the desire of the Spanish to retain their vast empire moving northward from Mexico. In the long run, it involved political and economic intrigues far beyond the borders of Spain or of its colonies in Latin America.

8 real of Charles III with designation for Charles IV 1790.

8 real of Charles IV with designation for Charles III 1791.

8 real of Charles IV with designation for Ferdinand VII 1809.

8 real of Ferdinand VII with Imaginary Portrait 1811.

8 real of Ferdinand VII with cuirassed bust 1821.

Typical reverse of 8 real coins this one from Mexican mint of Zacatecas (z).

2 real of Ferdinand VII with military bust 1812.

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SILVER COIN TYPES AND ISSUE YEARS FOR CHARLES III, CHARLES IV AND FERDINAND VII

King	Regnal Years	Coin Type	Issue Years	Type
Charles III	1760-1788	Pillar	1760-1771	
		Portrait	1772-1789	CIII
Charles IV	1788-1808	Portrait	1789-1791	CIII/CIV
		Portrait	1790 (1791)	CIII/CIIII
		Portrait	1791-1808	CIV
Ferdinand VII	1808-1821	Portrait	1810	CIII/CIV (Columbia)
		Portrait	1808-1811	imaginary (military)
		Portrait	1811-1821	imaginary (draped)

SPANISH COLONIAL TRANSITIONAL REIGN SILVER PORTRAIT COINS

Issue Years for the Charles III/Charles IV Series (1)

1/4 r	1/2 r	1 real	2 real	4 real	8 real
BOLIVIA					
	1789-91PR	1789-91PR 1791/81PR	1789-91PR	1789-90PR	1789-90PR 1791-1795PR 1795/94PR 1794PR (2) 1794PP (2) 1795-1802PP 1803-1808PJ

CHILE					
1790-91nm	1789-91DA	1789-91DA	1789-91DA	1789-91DA	1789-91DA
1791-90nm				1791-90DA	
1791-92nm	1791DA	1791DA	1791-92DA	1791-92DA	1790DA
GUATEMALA					
			1789-1790M	1789-1790M	1789-1790M
	1789-1790M	1789-1790M			1790-1808M
		1790/89M			1797/96M
					1806/05M
MEXICO					
	1789-90FM	1789-90FM	1789-90FM	1789-90FM	1789-90FM
	1790FM	1790FM	1790FM	1790FM	1790FM
PERU					
	1789-91IJ	1789-91IJ	1789-91IJ	1789-91IJ	1789-91IJ
		1791-04JP	1789-90IJ		1791-03IJ
		1791-04IP	1791-04IJ		1791-03IJ
		1803-08JP	1803-08JP		1803-08JP

(1) In each case, the first group represents bust of Charles III with title of Charles IV. The second group represents bust of Charles III with title of Charles IIII.

(2) No periods in reverse legend.

SPANISH COLONIAL TRANSITIONAL REIGN SILVER PORTRAIT COINS

Issue Years for the Charles IV/Ferdinand VII Series

	1/2 REAL	1 REAL	2 REAL	4 REAL	8 REAL
CHILE (Transitional Type)					
	1808-17FJ	1808-17FJ	1808-09FJ	1808-15FJ	
	1817FD	1809/08FJ			
	1817FI				
	(Imaginary Bust Type)				
			1810-11FJ		1808-09FJ
					1810-11FJ
COLOMBIA (Transitional Type)					
	1810JJ	1809FJ	1811JF		
	1812JF	1812FJ	1816-19FJ		

1816FJ	1816-20FJ	1816JJ/FJ		
1818-19FJ	1810JF	1818/17FJ		
	1812JF			
	1819J			
(P mintmark)				
1810JF	1810JF	1810-11JF		1810-15JF
1816FJ	1813JF	1811-10JF		1813/12JF
1819MF	1820FM	1813-14JF		1814/13JF
	1822FM	1814/13JF		1813F
		1818-20MF		1814F
		1820/10MF		1820MF
		1820FM		1820FM

GUATEMALA (Transitional Type)

	1808-1810M	1808-1810M	1808-1810M	1808-1810M
				1809/08M

MEXICO (Imaginary Bust Type)

1808-10TH	1809-10TH	1809-11TH	1809-12HJ	1808-10TH
1810-12HJ	1810-11HJ	1810-11HJ	1810TH	1809-11HJ
1813TH	1811TH			1809-10HJ/TH
1813-14JJ	1812-13JJ			1809TH/JH
1813HJ	1813-14HJ			1810-09HJ
				1811-10HJ

PERU (Imaginary Bust Type)

1808JP	1809-11JP	1808-09JP	1808JF	1808-09JP (1)
1809-11JP		1808-11JP	1810-11JP	1809-11JP (2)

(1) All denominations: the king's name given as FERDND
(2) All denominations: the king's name given as FERDIN

IN MEMORIAM

Col. James W. Curtis, of San Antonio, Texas formerly of Springfield, Illinois died November 16 at the age of 81. Mr. Curtis served as president of CSNS from 1952-1954 and held life membership number 4. He was a former member of the Board of Governors of ANA and author of several books. He is survived by his wife Kay.

The Central States Numismatic Society extends its sincere heartfelt sympathy to his family.

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Let Us Now Praise Coins for Coots An Apprentice Reviews His First Six Years In Numismatics

By Donal F. Mahoney

I've been a serious collector of coins, tokens, and medals since 1988, admittedly a short period of time. But it has been long enough for me to form my own opinions about the good, bad, and occasionally beautiful aspects of choosing numismatics as a hobby.

The first coin show I attended was a Central States bourse at the Henry VIII Hotel in St. Louis. There, I met Walter Anderson, the dealer who would sell me my first coin. It was a 1939 Brilliant Uncirculated Irish Halfpenny, one of the key dates in the series. I would later discover that Walter had sold me an excellent example at a very fair price. I bought other Irish coins from Walter on all three days of that show, and learned a great deal from him in the process. In Walter I had met a decent man who happened to be a coin dealer, and I am grateful that he dealt gracefully and ethically with me, and my lack of numismatic knowledge.

However, despite this pleasant initial experience, I have attended only three coin shows in six years, and all three took place during my first year in coins. My experiences at these shows, as I wandered from table to table, convinced me that Walter Anderson's approach to collectors—at shows, at least—was a magnificent exception among dealers.

Although I understood from the start why a busy dealer at a show would have little time for a novice, I couldn't understand why so many dealers used arrogance to get rid of me. I wasn't even given an opportunity to make a pest of myself, and I had money to spend whether I knew much about coins or not. But the hobby itself at that time was still crackling hot and customers were plentiful.

Today I know a little more about coins. And today, with the coin business comatose in comparison with what it was when I attended my first show, those same coin dealers might now welcome me at their tables. But I have no interest in going to any more shows. Instead, I buy coins by mail from dealers I have never met. When I buy by mail, I only have to deal with the condition of the coins sent, and not with the mood of their purveyors.

Since that first year, I have purchased 98 percent of my coins by mail, taking a risk comparable to bungee jumping. I have tried local coin stores and have found the dealers there affable in comparison with dealers at shows. For my needs, however, their inventory is wanting. Although I do not expect a local coin shop to specialize in high grade Irish coins and silver crowns of the world, I do think that a coin store should stock collector grades of U.S. coins—Extra Fine or better—at least in the common dates. In my city I have not found this to be true. So now I go to coin stores for supplies, little more.

Buying coins by mail for six years has been both rewarding and difficult. Until recently, I have had more good experiences than bad ones. In the last year, however, I have had an increasing number of U.S. and World Coin dealers sending me coins that do not come close to the grade advertised. In the beginning, I seldom sent back overgraded coins. Now they're in the mail the next day. I'm fed up with misrepresentation, but I'm still interested in coins, much more so now than when I attended my first show.

In an effort to assemble a set of 1928-1968 Irish coins in high grade condition, I have bought coins by mail from dealers in Australia, Canada, Switzerland, the Netherlands, England, Ireland and the U.S. On average, I have found that dealers overseas send me coins that U.S. dealers would label at least one grade higher. A "good Very Fine" from

Australia or Ireland would qualify as an Extra Fine if purchased from most dealers in the U.S.

Take, for example, the Almost Uncirculated 1937 Irish shilling I tried to buy. Until recently I had never seen this coin offered in any grade higher than Very Fine. Suddenly, two Almost Uncirculated examples appeared on the lists of two U.S. dealers. I bought both, hoping that at least one would turn out to be a legitimate Extra Fine. Ironically, both dealers sent me almost identical "AU" shillings. Due to wear, not a weak strike, each specimen graded Very Fine on the obverse (harp) and Almost Uncirculated on the reverse (bull).

The dealers I bought the shillings from reside in different states, and both sell U.S. and World coins. One runs a small classified ad regularly in coin newspapers; the other buys a two-page spread monthly in at least one publication. This was my third purchase from the first dealer; my umpteenth from the latter.

The first dealer offered to return my money, but I chose to keep the coin since it was better than the examples I already owned—a couple of Very Fines. The second dealer never answered my letter. In it I had asked him why he had sent me such an obviously overgraded coin—after years of his accurate grading and my repeated purchases. It's one thing, I observed, to be a skosh off on a coin that costs $30; it's quite another to be a football field away from the truth on a coin priced in the hundreds.

I recount these experiences here because as a subscriber to just about every coin journal there is, I've grown a little weary of reading about the declining state of the coin hobby. A major reason for the decline, according to one constant lament, is that too few new collectors are replacing the elders who pass on. Many in the hobby say that the answer is to encourage greater numbers of "young people" to become interested in coins. I'm not sure this is the answer.

After all, most young people, for good reasons and bad, have too little money to spend on coins. Potentially, they are not the average dealer's candidate for customer of the year. And those few youngsters who do have money invariably spend the bulk of it on the distractions of youth—as I did and as my five children, now degreed and on their own, did even more quickly than I. This tendency to squander money on trivia, necessary as it seems to be for passage into adulthood, militates strongly against young people becoming dedicated collectors of anything at an early age. (There are exceptions, I admit, and I apologize to those Young Numismatists whose maturity mystifies me.)

Nevertheless, I believe strongly that the number of teenagers likely to become interested in coins is comparable to the number likely to become interested in classical music. (We're not talking legions here.) Parents can expose children to classical music and a minority will prefer it to popular music. Similarly, parents can expose children to coins and a few will become seriously involved with the hobby. Certainly there's no harm in exposing children to either.

But to attract new collectors in substantial numbers, dealers must first learn how to welcome novice adults into the hobby. Adults have real money to spend on coins they like but know little or nothing about. Dealers must learn to help these novices in ways that will keep them in coins and not send them scurrying to stamps, sports cards, or salt and pepper shakers. New collectors, in heat, always buy the coin before the book; and they need guidance from dealers.

By helping these adults at this formative stage, dealers can assist at the birth of a collector who may one day become a permanent customer. Rebuffing these adults will not necessarily prevent the birth of a collector but it will make dealing with them later on something of an adversarial experience. New collectors remember dealers who help or hinder their maturation in the hobby.

Dealers aren't the only factor to make a major impression on me in my first six years

in the hobby. I was also surprised by slabbed coins, and by the American Numismatic Association.

I saw slabs at the first coin show I attended and I remember thinking to myself, "Why would anyone want to do that to a coin?." Nothing in my six years of collecting coins, and reading numismatic journals and books has altered my initial reaction But then I collect coins; I do not invest in them. (I prefer the scary world of mutual funds for investment.)

I joined the ANA in the first year of my involvement with coins. It seemed like the right thing to do for someone new to the hobby. I knew that I bought World coins with my heart and U.S. coins with my head and I thought I could learn a lot about both by joining the ANA.

Six years later I must admit that I have learned a great deal from the ANA's magazine, "The Numismatist." Until recently, the magazine has more than made up for the constant squabbling among ANA board members reported in the press. Should the ANA board vote to move the convention from Detroit? Should they dump—and later reinstate—Portland as a convention site? Should they remain on the board until they need an ear trumpet to participate in a meeting? Should they vote to ban a convicted child molester/numismatic scholar from membership in the ANA? And should they vote later on to name a convicted tax evader/coin dealer to yet another ANA committee? "Issues" like these have nothing to do with strike or luster and are inconsequential to the new collector.

I thought that by recording these reflections on my first six years as an apprentice in numismatics I might begin to understand my mixed feelings about the state of the hobby today. I can't say, however, that writing this has helped because I see no apparent solutions. Dealers and collectors, good and bad, will come and go. Slabs are here to stay as is the ANA, probably, in one form or other. Meanwhile, difficult dealers only add to the challenge of collecting decent coins. Admittedly a problem, the latter only increase my appreciation for those dealers who consistently sell the grades they advertise. From them I shall continue to buy coins, time and again.

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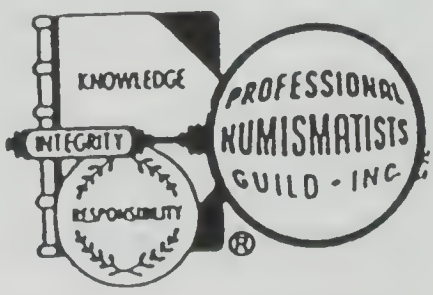

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Thomas Jefferson Contribution to Coinage

by Christy Lewis, YN

Coins are a legacy of Thomas Jefferson, not only because of his personal interest in currency and medals, but as part of his worldly travels. Jefferson is credited with having developed the United States current decimal coinage system and having played a major roll in the establishment of the U.S. Mint and the banking system.

Thomas Jefferson, as a congressman, made a major contribution of enduring importance to the nation. In April 1784, he submitted Notes on the Establishment of a Monetary Unit and of a Coinage for the United States in which he advised the use of a decimal system. This report led to the adoption of the dollar, rather than the pound, as the basic monetary unit of the United States.

From 1784 to 1789, Jefferson resided outside the United States. He was sent to Paris initially as a commissioner to help negotiate commercial treatie; then in 1785, he succeeded Benjamin Franklin as Minister of France. Louis XVI was the ruler of France during this period and the Ecu was the basic monetary unit. It was during this time period that Thomas Jefferson traveled around Europe and observed their coinage and monetary system. One of his travel adventures clearly included Austria, where the Thaler (dollar) was the basic monetary unit. He clearly could not resist bringing back a few pieces for his own personal collection. When Jefferson returned from Paris in 1789 for business reasons, he expected to return to his post. However, unknown to him while en route back to the United States, Congress confirmed his appointment as Secretary of State for the first administration of George Washington. Jefferson accepted this position with some reluctance.

We can see Jefferson's involvement in the formation of our monetary system in that he soon became distrustful of both the proposals and motives of the Secretary of the Treasury, Alexander Hamilton. He thought Hamilton's financial programs specifically involving the Bank of the United States were both unwise and unconstitutional.

On March 3, 1791, Congress resolved that a Mint should be established and that President Washington should cause an artist/designer to be employed and machinery secured for the purpose of minting coins. Alternatives were proposed for the implementation of this resolution. The alternatives included one of having United States coinage made by the private mint of Boulton & Watt of England. Arguments soon followed including those by Jefferson, that he opposed any private contract coinage whatever. Jefferson won this argument.

An Act of Congress of April 2, 1792, became the basis of our national coinage. It provided for the free coinage of gold and silver. The last section of the Act of 1792, in which Jefferson had a strong influence in its wording, was the sole cause of the changing of all the accounts of the public offices and all proceedings in the courts of the United States from the basis of pounds, shillings and pence to the decimal system that we use today.

On April 14, 1792, Washington appointed David Rittenhouse the first director of the Mint at a salary of $2,000 per year. Rittenhouse recommended to Washington that an old distillery at 37-39 North Seventh Street be purchased for the new Mint. The first of the Mint buildings was completed on September 7, 1792, and workmen of the Mint commenced work shortly thereafter. Undoubtedly, Jefferson, one of the most influential persons of the day, had some conversations with Rittenhouse as to his conception about what the designs should be on U.S. coinage. Shortly thereafter, the first coins of the First

United States Mint were minted. They were the silver half dimes claimed to have been made from silver deposited by Washington.

In 1805 and 1806, Thomas Jefferson donated his coin collection, an assortment of ancient, British and French coins and metals, most of which was accumulated when he was Minister of France, to the American Philosophical Society. The influence of this modest collection as to design and metallic content of U.S. coinage can only be hypothesized, but historical evidence indicates that it was a material influence on the conception of United States Coinage.

There are three contributions written on his tombstone that Jefferson wished to be remembered: "Author of the Declaration of American Independence, of the Statute of Virginia for religious freedom, and Father of the University of Virginia" and, as he requested, "not a word more." Numismatists might have wanted to add other accomplishments — including the establishment of the first U.S. Mint and his affect on coinage — but in principal numismatists would, with some reluctance, concur with Thomas Jefferson's own assessment as what was important to him.

About the Cover

The Milwaukee County Historical Society building is nestled in the heart of downtown Milwaukee at 910 N. Old World Third Street. It is located one block from the MECCA Convention Center. Its museum, exhibits, galleries and audiovisual displays introduces visitors to the people, events and forces that shaped Milwaukee and to the rich and diverse character of its citizens. Hours are 9:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., Monday-Friday; 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., Saturday; and 1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m., Sunday. No admission charge. Photo courtesy of Milwaukee County Historical Society.

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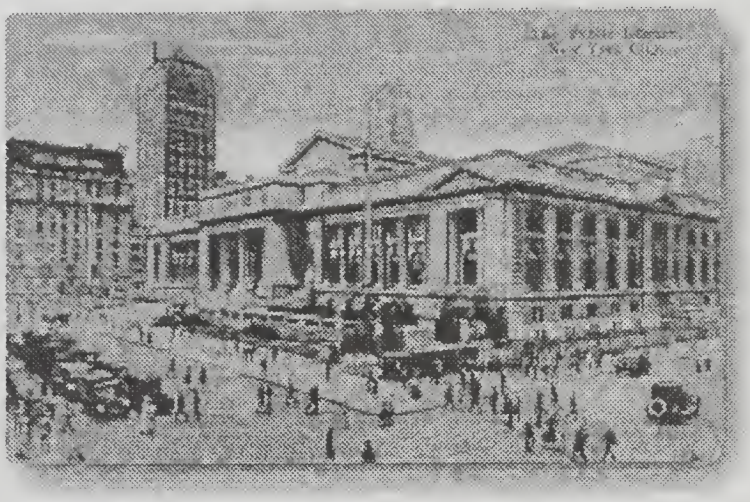

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OWLS OF THE GOLDEN AGE OF ATHENS

In the fifth century B.C., the city of Athens became the most prosperous and powerful state in Greece. Under their great statesman Pericles, the Athenians built an empire through their leadership of the Delian League, an anti-Persian military alliance. The tetradrachms of Athens, popularly known as "owls" because of their reverse design, are wonderful artifacts of the city's Golden Age. These distinctive silver coins were struck from the wealth that poured into Athens from her own silver mines and from the cities under her rule. Athenian "owls" became the standard currency of the Aegean region. In about 449 B.C., Athens issued a decree directing her subject states to cease coining silver and use Athenian coins in all transactions with the city. The reputation of "owls" as a stable currency was so great that they were used for trade far and wide. Hoards of Athenian tetradrachms have been found from Sicily and Italy in the west to Afghanistan in the east.

The Athenians used the great wealth the city now possessed to rebuild the temples burned down by the Persians in 480 B.C. For this purpose, Pericles appropriated the colossal sum of 5,000 talents (equal to 7,500,000 tetradrachms) from the treasury of the Delian League. The greatest of these temples was the Parthenon, begun in 447 B.C. Under the direction of the sculptor Phidais, the greatest architects and sculptors of the day labored to produce the finest of all Classical Greek buildings. The city's wealth also helped pay for the production of dramas performed as part of the festival of Dionysus, held each spring. The tragedies of Aeschylus, Sophocles, and Euripides, and the comedies of Aristophanes which were written and performed during Athens' Golden Age are still acted today. The city had also become a center of learning.

This was the era of the philosopher Socrates and his star pupil Plato, who, in their search for knowledge and understanding of the human condition, left an enduring legacy. That literature, philosophy, and art should flourish in the city which took its name from the goddess of wisdom, Athena, seems appropriate.

Athens' wealth and power aroused the envy of other Greek states, especially Sparta. In 431 B.C., the great contest between the two city-states and their allies known as the Peloponnesian War began. At the outset of the war, Athens had a reserve of 6,000 talents (9,000,000 tetradrachms) in coined silver lodged in the opisthodomos (treasury) of the Parthenon. However, plague (which took the life of Pericles in 429 B.C.) and ill-conceived military ventures (such as the disastrous campaign of 415-413 B.C. against Syracuse) proved to be the city's undoing. In 404 B.C., she surrendered to Sparta and dismantled her fortifications. Athens would become a power again in the fourth century B.C., but she never regained the dominant position she attained before the Peloponessian War.

Because of what they represent, Athenian "owls" are among the most sought-after of ancient coins. Weighing in at about 17.20 grams each, they are of almost pure silver. On the obverse of these coins is the head of Athena, wearing a crested helmet decorated with three olive leaves and a floral scroll. Although Athena's head is shown in profile, her eye is shown frontally—an archaic feature which may have been retained due to a reluctance to tamper with a recognized symbol of financial stability. On the reverse is Athena's companion, the owl.

According to Greek legend, Athena's owl flew around the world each night to bring back to the goddess news of the day's events. Behind the owl is a sprig of olive (a reference to the city's chief agricultural export, olive oil) and a crescent moon (possibly

commemorating Athens' great naval victory over the Persians at Salamis in 480 B.C., fought during the last quarter of the moon).

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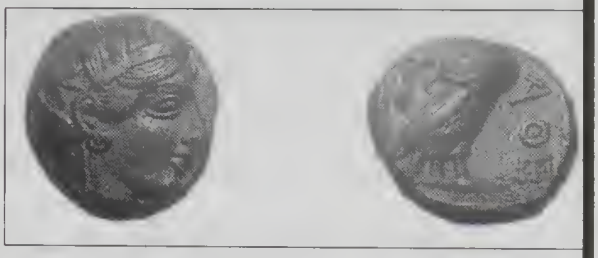
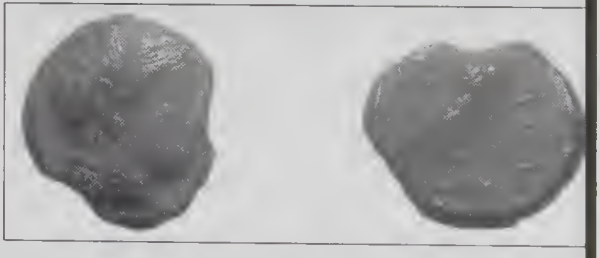
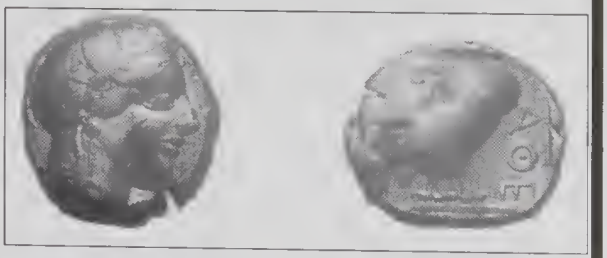


4. VF, uncleaned, **$425**.



5. Fine, uncleaned, **$325**.



6. F-VF, test cut, **$200**.

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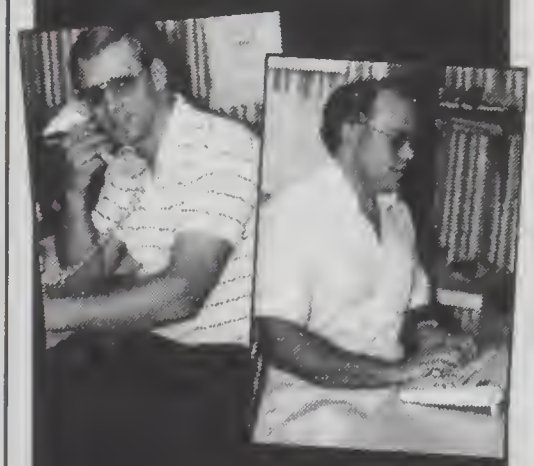

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The medal is 38.6 mm in diameter, slightly larger than a U.S. silver dollar.

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CLUB NEWS

WAUKESHA COIN CLUB

The Waukesha (Wiseonsin) Coin Club is proud to announee the eleetion of the following offieers for 1995:

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CHICAGO COIN CLUB

The Chicago Coin Club will hold their regular monthly meeting Saturday, March 25th, 1:30 p.m. in eonjunetion with the upeoming Chicago International Coin Fair. The three-day show will be held Mareh 24-26, at the Sheraton Chicago Hotel, 301 East North Water Street, Downtown Chicago (312) 329-74046.

The featured speaker will be David L. Vagi on thc topic "The Ides of March Coinage of Brutus." These unique coins hold a speeial plaee in history, alluding to the assassination of Julius Caesar and chronicling it as an act against tyranny. Brutus' eoinage also give us the most rcliable portraits of thc famous assassin.

Mr. Vagi is Vice Prcsident at Spink Ameriea, New York; writes a monthly eolumn for thc

ancient coin magazine, *The Celator*; teaches an ancient coin course at the American Numismatic Association Summer Seminar; was the director of ancient coin department at Superior Stamp and Coin and was a staff writer for *Coin World*.

The Chicago Coin Club will also continue their tradition of giving a primitive money recreation to everyone who attends their meeting. This will now be the seventh odd and curious replica issued by the Club.

This year's issue will be ancient Chinese Knife Money. Each piece will be accompanied by its history which is being written by Club member and award winning author, Robert Leonard. The Knife Money was manufactured under the direction of another Club member, Robert Feiler, at Mech-Tronics of Melrose Park, Illinois.

At first impression, the replicas look very genuine with their deep green patina, until you turn to the reverse side and read the inscription **"Good for $5.00 in Trade with the Chicago Coin Club."** The obverse side reads **"Chicago Coin Club"** in Chinese. All pieces are serially numbered and limited to a total issue of 250.

The Chicago Coin Club will also be manning a table at the Fair to answer questions about the Club. Some of the items for sale will include their book *Perspectives in Numismatics* and a limited number of odd and curious replicas from previous years, which includes California Clam Shell Money, Native American Axe Head Money and Bark Cloth Money from the Pacific Islands.

Those not attending the meeting can purchase the Club's Chinese Knife Money or any of the past issues still in stock for their own collections, by sending $6.00 per item to **Chicago Coin Club, P.O. Box 2301, Chicago, IL 60606.** Be sure to clearly state which issues and how many of each are being ordered.

WAUKESHA COIN CLUB

The Waskesha (Wisconsin) Coin Club will sponsor its **26th Annual Collectibles and Coin Show** on Sunday, April 2, 1995 from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. at the Waukesha County Fairgrounds Arena Building.

Admission is $1.00 for adults; attendance prizes will be awarded hourly; an estimated 35 dealers will have tables; refreshments will be available; and club members will provide exhibits in competition for prizes.

To commemorate the show, a **wooden token** with a trade value of 5 cents, will be given to all attendees (sample enclosed). Persons unable to attend the show and desiring a 1995 wooden "nickel" can obtain one by sending 50 cents and a self-addressed stamped envelope. Also available are Waukesha Coin Club "wooden nickels" from previous years. Interested persons can obtain a 1995 "wooden nickel" and seven different "wooden nickels" from previous years for $2.00 and a large self-addressed stamped envelope.

Catalog of Waukesha Coin Club Collectible Souvenirs issued: There is now a catalog of all collectible souvenirs issued by the Waukesha Coin Club from 1965 through 1994. This 22 page catalog is printed on 8 1/2 x 11 paper and has photocopies and descriptions of all items. Copies are available for a cost of $2.00.

For additional information on the collectibles, coin show or to obtain wooden tokens or the collectible catalog write:

WAUKESHA COIN CLUB
1912 LAURA LANE
WAUKESHA, WI 53186

CLUB FUND RAISER

Do you want to help build your coin club's treasury? You can by ordering the book, *Coin Club Issues of Nebraska*. John Veach and Steve Drake will donate $3.00 for each book order to your coin club. *Coin Club Issues of Nebraska* is a book of more than 70 pages giving history and listings of coin clubs and items they have issued over the years. The books can be purchased by sending $12.00 for each book to: **Steve Drake, 6411 North 77th Street, Omaha, NE 68134.**

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Milwaukee Numismatic Society coin shows always generate wide interest across the country, and our 1995 show will be no exception.

Show Calendar

Show Chairmen are invited to send announcements of upcoming coin shows in the Central States region. The Show Calendar is intended to assist collectors and dealers in planning their show attendance. It is also designed to aid show sponsors in avoiding date conflicts. Show dates will be listed up to 12 months in advance and show sponsors are encouraged to submit dates for future shows through December, 1996. Please include the city where the show will be held, official name of the show, show dates and location, as well as the name, address and phone number of the show or bourse chairman. Send to Jim or Karen Jach, P. O. Box 21766, Milwaukee, WI 53221.

1995 SHOW CALENDAR

WAUKESHA, WISCONSIN — APRIL 2

Waukesha Coin Club 26th Annual Show, Waukesha Expo Arena, 1200 Northview Road, Waukesha, WI. Tom Snyder, 801 Northview Road, Waukesha, WI 53288 (414) 542-5990

INDIANAPOLIS, INDIANA — APRIL 9, MAY 14, JUNE 11, JULY 9

2nd Sunday Coin & Currency Show, Knights of Columbus, 2100 E. 71st St., (1 block west of 71st & Keystone Ave.), Indianapolis, IN. Jennifer Roessler, P. O. Box 20861, Indianapolis, IN 46220. (317) 576-9001

DEARBORN, MICHIGAN — APRIL 21-23

Michigan State Numismatic Society 39th Annual Spring Convention, hosted by the Battle Creek Coin Club & Monroe Coin Club, Hyatt Regency Hotel, Dearborn, MI. Don Charters, P. O. Box 85424, Westland, MI 48185. (313) 721-4991

OSKALOOSA, IOWA — APRIL 22-23

Oskaloosa-Southern Iowa Coin Club Show, Penn Central Mall, 200 High Avenue West, Oskaloosa, IA. Gail McKee, P. O. Box 11, Oskaloosa, IA 52577. (515) 673-4011

MILWAUKEE, WISCONSIN — APRIL 27-30

Central States Numismatic Society's 56th Annual Convention, hosted by South Shore Coin Club, Milwaukee Numismatic Society and Numismatists of Wisconsin, MECCA Convention Center, 500 W. Kilbourn Avenue, Milwaukee, WI. Russ Konig, 4040 N. Calhoun Road, Brookfield, WI 53005. (414) 781-4200

ANDERSON, INDIANA — MAY 7

Madison County Coin Club Show, UAW #663 Union Hall, 29th Street & Madison Avenue, Anderson, IN. William Gwaltney, P. O. Box 2, Anderson, IN 46015. (317) 642-9048

NORTH PLATTE, NEBRASKA — MAY 20-21

Nebraska Numismatic Association's 40th Annual Coin Show hosted by Platte Valley Coin Club, Holiday Inn, North Platte, NE. Elmer Nelson, P. O. Box 683, Sutherland, NE 69165. (308) 386-2231

INDIANAPOLIS, INDIANA — JUNE 9-10

Indiana State Numismatic Association 37th Annual Convention, Indiana Convention Center, Hall E, 100 S. Capitol Avenue, Indianapolis, IN. Jennifer Roessler, P. O. Box 20861, Indianapolis, IN 46220. (327) 576-9001

MILWAUKEE, WISCONSIN — JUNE 30-JULY 2

Mid America Coin Convention, MECCA Convention Center, 500 W. Kilbourn Avenue, Milwaukee, WI. Kevin Foley, P. O. Box 589, Milwaukee, WI 53201 (414) 282-2388

CINCINNATI, OHIO — SEPTEMBER 15-17

Greater Cincinnati Numismatic Exposition 12th Annual Show, Drawbridge Inn and Convention Center (I-75 Exit #186 between Cincinnati and the Airport). Paul Padget, 726 W. Wyoming Avenue, Cincinnati, OH 45215. (513) 821-2143; FAX (513) 821-3618

ROCKFORD, ILLINOIS — SEPTEMBER 17

Rockford Area Coin Club Show, Ramada Inn - Hoffman House, 7550 E. State St. Ralph Winquist, 1004 C Street, Rockford, IL 61107

MILWAUKEE, WISCONSIN — SEPTEMBER 22-24

Milwaukee Numismatic Society 61st Anniversary Show. MECCA Convention Center, 4th and Kilbourn, John Rdzak, P. O. Box 26271, Wauwatosa, WI 53226. (414) 774-4813

DEARBORN, MICHIGAN — NOVEMBER 24-26

Michigan State Numismatic Society 40th Annual Fall Convention, Hyatt Regency Hotel, One Fairlane Drive, Dearborn, MI 48126. Don Charters, P. O. Box 85424, Westland, MI 48185. (313) 721-4991

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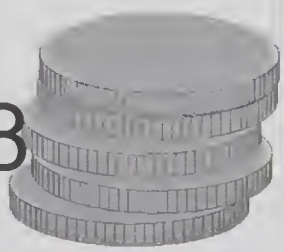

France, 500 francs gold, Louvre Museum-Mona Lisa, Y-170.

French Gold Issue Honoring the Louvre Named Coin of the Year

A French coin commemorating the bicentennial of the Louvre Museum has been named Coin of the Year for issues dated 1993 in competition sponsored by World Coin News.

The biweekly hobby newspaper has been sponsoring the award for the past 12 years to encourage excellence in coin design. This is the second time a French coin has won.

The winner is a gold 500-franc that depicts the Louvre's most famous resident — the Mona Lisa — on the obverse. The reverse depicts the museum building with modern glass pyramids in the foreground. The reverse also carries the inscription "Bicentenaire du Musee du Louvre," the date, and denomination.

The Coin of the Year is selected through a two-stage balloting process. It begins in the summer following the year of issue (summer 1994 for coins dated 1993) with nominations compiled by the World Coin News staff in each of nine categories.

An international panel of coinage experts then votes on each category winner. After those results are compiled, the ballots are again sent to the panel, which votes on the Coin of the Year from among the category winners.

The French coin won the Best Gold category. Following are the other category winners:

Most Artistic: Austria, silver 500-schilling honoring Hallstatt. This coin also finished second in the Coin of the Year balloting.

Most Historically Significant: France, silver 1-franc commemorating the Normandy Invasion. This coin finished third overall.

Best Silver: China, 150-yuan depicting peacocks.

Best Crown (non-gold coin with a minimum diameter of 33 millimeters): Fiji, silver $10 depicting Capt. William Bligh.

Best Trade Coin (issues intended for circulation): Czech Republic, bimettalic 50-korun depicting a view of Prague.

Most Popular Coin: Gibraltar, copper-nickel 1-crown depicting a stegosaurus.

Most Innovative Coinage Concept: Andora, silver 20-diner/ecu depicting St. George.

Most Inspirational Coin: Poland, 300,000-zlotych commemorating the Warsaw Ghetto Uprising.

France previously won the Coin of the Year award for 1989-dated issues with a 5-franc commemorating the Eiffel Tower.

Future CSNS Conventions

1995—April 27-30 . . . . . .Milwaukee, Wisconsin
Russ Konig, 4040 N. Calhoun Rd., Brookfield, WI 53005 414/781-4200
1996—April 10-14 . . . . . .Kansas City, Missouri
1997—April 10-13 . . . . . .Indianapolis, Indiana
1998—April 23-26 . . . . . .St. Louis, Missouri

NOTE TO CLUB OFFICIALS

Interested in hosting a future CSNS Convention? It is not too early to begin thinking of the future! Submit your letter of invitation to the CSNS Secretary-Treasurer at your earliest convenience. Your request will receive the prompt attention of the Officers and Board of Governors.

Would You Like To Submit An Article To *The Centinel?*

The Central States Numismatic Society welcomes articles related broadly to numismatic themes. All of the material contributed will be entered in competition for the Elston Bradfield Literary Award for the best article to appear in *The Centinel.*

Articles from contributors less than 18 years old are entered in competition for the Daniel Parker Literary Award.

Articles should contain accurate information and clear photos or drawings to help illustrate your subject.

In addition, authors are compensated at a rate of roughly five dollars per 100 words.

If you have a piece you'd like to submit for possible publication, contact the editors — Jim and Karen Jach, P.O. Box 21766, Milwaukee, WI 53221, phone 414/281-4687.

Central States Numismatic Society Contacts

Have a problem or question with your Central States Numismatic Society Membership?

Here's who to contact to resolve the matter:

Area of Concern:	Person to Contact:
General questions, complaints, and suggestions	Kevin Foley P.O. Box 589 Milwaukee, WI 53201
Convention Coordinator Future Site Selection	Leon Thornton P.O. Box N Eminece, MO 65466
Convention Administration	Paul Padget 716 W. Wyoming Ave. Cincinnati, OH 45215-4529
ANA Scholarship Program for Adults	Roger Winkelhake P.O. Box 6071 Lincoln, NE 68506
ANA Scholarship Program for Young Numismatists	Florence Schook P.O. Box 2014 Livonia, MI 48154
Dues Payment New Membership Application Request for Membership Brochures Membership Cards Failure to receive *The Centinel* Change of Address	Jerry Lebo P.O. Box 44337 Indianapolis, IN 46244 317/889-4253
Letters to the Editors To submit a *Centinel* article Coin Show Calendar Listings News of Local Club Activities Advertising	Jim and Karen Jach P.O. Box 21766 Milwaukee, WI 53221 414/281-4687

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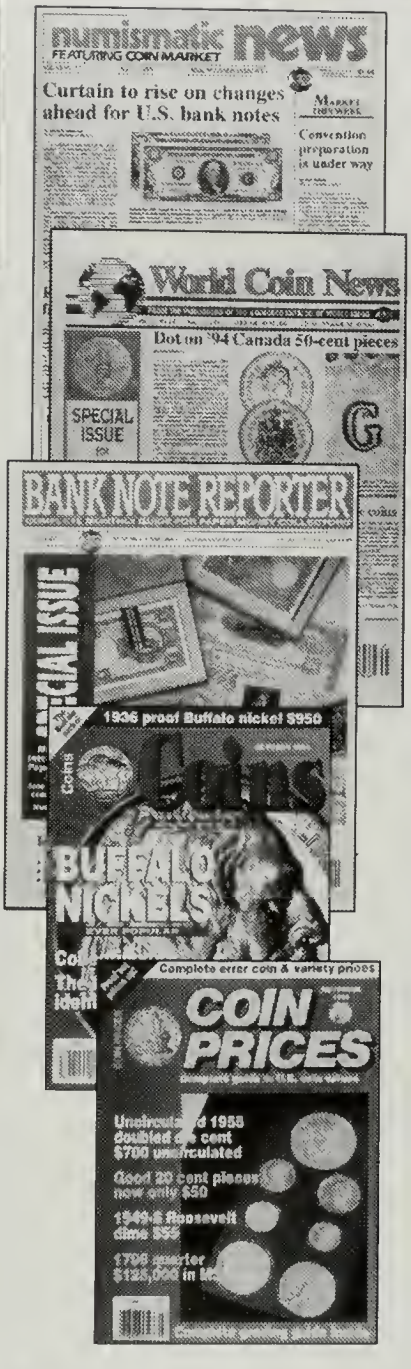

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